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Appomattox County . . . Yesterday And Today

By Paul Ghioto

Who is this man? He lived in Appomattox County for only five years, had six children, a wife, a comfortable home and owned a few acres of land. Except for two significant periods during his lifetime when the events of a war prodded him into the limelight of history he probably would be known today to only a handful of close relatives.

In these times when Americans are so very concerned with their past, the question might be asked, "What makes a person, a place or a thing historic or significant?" A good answer might be that whatever one believes in their own mind to be historic or significant can rightfully be so regarded. The impact made on historic time by the existence of a person, place or event may be on a national, regional, state, local or simply local scale. In looking at our own lives and those of our own ancestors we might not be too surprised that those things which have most affected them are events of oftentimes personal importance.

It goes without saying that not everyone's father or mother, grandmother or grandfather could be a general, senator, president or mayor. However, holding such a position in life does not guarantee one fame or fortune. It may not even guarantee one lasting remembrance.

For the sake of our children and future generations, individuals, families and other groups can do much to preserve the memory of those things most important in our own lives.

The term "above-ground archaeology" refers to anything visibly in evidence which allows us to piece together our past. Structures, vehicles, furniture, photographs, paintings, diaries, letters, business records, birth and baptismal certificates, clothing, tape recordings, jewelry and deeds are just a few of the pieces which make up the puzzle of our own existence.

Some people are fortunate enough to have the facts which enable them to trace their family tree back for many generations. Others may know little about even their own grandparents. However, it's never too late to begin a record of our present family's life. The following examples illustrate some of the different ways we can construct a family history.

A. Beginning with the birthdates of parents, record these and the birthdates of all offspring.

B. Keep a scrapbook of newspaper clippings relating to family members.

C. Maintain a photograph file containing photos of family members at different stages in their lives.

D. Preserve all certificates of achievement.

E. Make tape recordings of family members speaking in order to remember the sound of one's voice through the years.

F. Film a family reunion.

G. Paint a picture or draw a sketch of the family home for framing and display.

H. Keep a diary whenever you go on vacation or an extended business trip.

J. Make casts of family members' footprints in a concrete mold and write the date beside.

There are no doubt many items about the home or business today which could become the nucleus of a family history. Identify these and put them away now so that when time permits they may be properly recorded and preserved.

So often the remark is heard, "Whatever happened to that picture of so-and-so?" or "If only we had kept....." Now, the present, is the best time to do that which will allow all of our future generations to be knowledgeable of their past.

past.

Oh yes, the gentleman pictured is Wilmer McLean.

Looking Back

1. The nickname of Appomattox's baseball team was:

A. Rebels B. Green Sox C. Tigers D. Indians

2. Which of the following was a Spanish-American War veteran?

A. Peter Flood B. Claude Gallier C. Walter Payne D. Lloyd Vaughan.

3. "We Never Sleep" was this store's slogan in 1948:

A. H. C. Babcock B. Inge's C. Poe Hardware D. Spencer Drugs.

4. He was a former member of the Board of Supervisors:

A. W. D. Christian B. Chas. Drinkard C. John Durrum D. Joseph Button.

5. One of the early "school wagon" drivers:

A. Berkley Brown B. Edwin Carter C. R. B. Carter D. Wilbur Woolridge.

Quiz items taken from Featherston's "History of Appomattox" and Stanley's "A History of Appomattox County."

ANSWERS

1. (B) 2. (C) 3. (A) 4. (B) 5. (D)

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The Pastor Speaks

GOD'S OWNERSHIP

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1

God created the world. We are the trustees of the creation. Mankind can fasion, but only God can create. God created by His will "By the world of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth." Psalm 33:6. John, the disciple, said, "All things were made by him; and without Him was not anything made that was made. John 1:3.

God claims his ownership in many scriptures. Man belongs to God by the act of creation. Man is entirely dependent upon God. "For in him we live, and move, and have eour being." Acts 17:28. God's ownership is absolute.

God owns not only the mountains, cattle, gold, and silver. He owns my bank account, my house, my car, my everything. I am accountable to Him for everything that I call mine. "But thou remember the Lord thy God: for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth ..." Deut. 10:18.

At New Hope this past Sunday we acknowledged God's ownership of all that we have and His creation. Will you consider likewise? I believe if you will, your relationship to Christ and what you have will become more valuable to you. Also thankfulness and praise to God will be manifested.

Thank you for reading,
Rev. Deryl B. Holliday
New Hope Baptist Church
Rt. 3, Appomattox, Va.

The Sunday School Lesson

HERBERT C. BRADSHAW
P. O. Box 1833
Durham, N.C. 27702

Comment on the International Sunday School lesson for Sunday, March 23, 1975
Topic: We Have a Faith
Scripture: Hebrews 11-12

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. Hebrews 12:3

It is the only definition of faith to be found in the New Testament, but it is the best definition of faith we have anywhere: "faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." In this definition are included the two aspects of faith, one the firm confidence that what we hope for will come to pass, where faith is indistinguishable from hope, the second the realization that there are realities and knowledge which cannot be perceived by the physical senses.

The Scriptural use of faith has a spiritual connotation, though the term is not so limited. The young man has faith that he will achieve worldly success, for example. In our usual usage, we too give the word a spiritual connotation and certainly this is the emphasis in this week's International Sunday School lesson, as it applies to both aspects of faith. In such usage, faith involves God and man's understanding of Him.

The starting point in such faith, as the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews says is the belief that God exists. The next step is the belief that God reveals Himself and His will to those who seek Him and want to learn His will. Faith includes the belief that God will keep His promises - this was the prime faith of the Old Testament. The promises God does keep within the human experience, as the deliverance of the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Land of Promise, are items of evidence that God will in what man terms the future keep His promises which are as yet unrealized. The fact that God kept His promise to send a Savior into the world justifies the believer in living in this life in the faith that he will in the world to come experience eternal life, as God has promised, and that God will eventually triumph over the forces and powers of evil.

Faith enables us to understand that we are not ends or complete in ourselves, but that we are part of a continuing company and ministry. It is not necessary for a person to begin what he works at, nor is it necessary for him to bring it to completion. As Hebrews puts it, in two memorable passages, "These all died in faith, not having received what was promised, but having seen it and greeted it from afar ...." and also, "All these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect."

Just as the ambitious young person works to make faith in his ambition for himself come to pass, so one who lives in faith in God works to make reality his faith, here the same as his hope, that God's will will come to pass both in his own life and in the larger scope of world history. In view of prevailing circumstances, the faith that God's will will triumph in the world may often seem an unrealizable dream. Yet this must be the faith and the hope of the believer.

It is strenghening and reassuring to realize that in this faith the individual is not alone. Surrounding each believer is a great cloud of witnesses, unseen by the physical eye but there nevertheless, who have lived in this faith and have carried on in this world God's work as it was given them to do. Some, as Moses, saw God intervene in history and free His people from bondage. Others, as the apostles, saw God again intervene in history through the Incarnation of His only Son to free all people from slavery to sin. These encourage those who come after them, in successive generations, to take their places in this long line of workers for God, runners in the race of history, the writer of Hebrews portrays the succession of believers. Just as the runner keeps his eye on the goal, or the finish line, and not on the audience, so these runners are to keep their eyes on Him who holds the goal and presides over the finish line. They take further courage from the earthly experience of Jesus Himself in confronting obstacles to the life of faith.

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...ers Named At The Coleman ...ne Housewarming

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...of the local ...are James R. ...chairman; E. M. ...ington, E. W. ..., Ned Clowdis, ...son and John H.

...the Women's ...Advisory Commit- ...community are Mrs. ...Moore, Chairman; ...atton, Mrs. R. C. ..., J. B. Drinkard, ...R. Ford, Jr., ...Paulette.

...of the Southern ...perative Service Agency are Dan G. Coleman and Ronald M. Coleman, managers; Ralph Ferguson, Charlie Scruggs, Ray Conner, Dale Buchanan and Deborah Ayers.

Southern States REgional Manager, Mr. Hugh Harris, assisted with the Housewarming along with Mr. G. M. Slate, Agency Operations Supervisor; Mr. J. D. Tolbert, Appomattox Regional representative; and Mr. W. S. Dixon, Farm Supply Supervisor.

Mr. Carroll Mince of Concord won the prize at the Coleman & Sons, Inc. Housewarming on March 8, 1975. He took home a new lawn mower after his name was drawn from among 197 persons who registered at the gala event.

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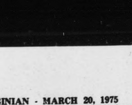

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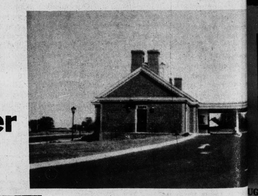

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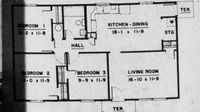

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